

St. Milled grille July 6th 1852

My dear sons -

In the hurry of having John's trunk packed - I overlooked the fact that I had provided no hair brushes, etc for you - I therefore enclose in this letter five dollars which you must hand to Mr. Trade, and request him from me to be so kind as to purchase for each of you, a hair brush, coarse comb - fine comb and tooth-brush -

I will here urge upon you the necessity of using your tooth brush every morning - and hope you both will attend to this duty when you know it is the request of your father and mother.

We think of you much, and talk of you frequently and I can safely say that you have been out of mind, but few moments since I parted with John a. Last night was very windy, heavy and tempestuous - and as we had

around a cheerful fire in the dining room - I
thought of my little boys, as strangers under
a strange roof - spending their first evening
with their new teachers. Your Papa observed
that he would like to look in upon you, but
he doubted not that you were both diverted by
the novelty of your situation - from thinking much
of your absence from home -

As he knows better than I do how boys feel from
home - I will trust him; and believe that your
first evening was spent as contentedly, and
happily as we could wish.

Learned each of you give me a description of
that first evening - describing your feelings,
and employment on the occasion -

Did Samson think most of Uncle John or
most of Papa and Mama? Did John's
^{thoughts} ~~revert~~ revert to Ann, Elizabeth, or did they turn
tenderly to little sister Mary Ann and Laura?
Write me all about it -

I send you a letter which your Papa received
from Mr. Carothers - your teacher in Washington
City - It contains a kind allusion to you both
which we wish you to read - After you have

been to Mr Meade a month or so. I wish
you to write a joint letter to Mr Leavitts
to show him the progress you have made
in learning. Since you left him -

I wish you to take turns and write me a
weekly letter. In February I hope to be able
to visit Macm. and bring Nevele and your
little sisters to see you.

Mary Ann continues well except the affection
of her throat. She is very lively and enjoyed
greatly your Uncle John Sam's present
of Candy. It came on the 5th of your Grand
- Papa's 69th birthday and your sister is
quite pleased that she could hold the name
of candy and hand it to her Grand Papa
and the other members of the family.

Would you like to know what I gave your Grand
Papa on his birthday? You remember Samson
used to be curious whenever he saw a pudding
put upon the table - to know "whose birth-day
is it". Well Grand Papa - had a "green goose"
and mince pies - your sister Anna is still a
good baby - and grows daily. She and I have
descended to the dining-room. where we remain.

all day. Lamma lies in the large yellow cradle
that looks as if it was built for one of Gulliver's
Brobdignag babies - Henna is very lively.
Your Papa and all the family unite with me
in much love to you - hoping that you will
be very good boys and give your teacher notable
Your affectionate mother
Mary Ann Leab -

Mother

John R. & Lamma Leab -
Care of Mr. Menden

Macon -